

REMARKS

Claims 1-9 and 11 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1-9 and 11 are amended, and claim 10 is canceled. Claims 2-9 and 11 are amended to maintain consistency with amended claim 1 and to correct typographical errors therein.

No new matter is added to the application by this Amendment. Support for new features added to claim 1 can be found within the specification, as originally filed, at, for example, page 22, lines 9-17.

Entry of the claim amendments and reconsideration of the application are thus respectfully requested.

I. Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102 and/or §103

Claims 1-11 were rejected (a) under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being obvious over U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0202881 to Everaerts et al. (hereinafter "Everaerts"), (b) under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being obvious over DE 10036804 to Husemann et al. (hereinafter "Husemann"), and (c) under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Husemann in view of Everaerts. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

The Patent Office alleges that Everaerts and/or Husemann, taken singly or in combination, teaches or suggests each and every feature of claims 1-11. Applicants respectfully disagree with these allegations.

In view of the cancellation of claim 10, these rejections are moot with respect to that claim.

Everaerts and Husemann, taken singly or in combination, fail to teach or suggest a pressure-sensitive adhesive system comprising a first optically transparent substrate bonded to a second optically transparent substrate with pressure-sensitive adhesive, wherein the pressure-sensitive adhesive is based on at least 50% of one or more block copolymers comprising at least the unit P(A)-P(B)-P(A), and further wherein the pressure sensitive adhesive has a refractive index $n_{d,a}$ of $n_{d,a} \geq 1.52$ at 25°C, at least one of the (co)polymer blocks P(A) have has a refractive index $n_{d,A}$ of $n_{d,A} \geq 1.58$ at 25°C, and the (co)polymer block P(B) has a refractive index $n_{d,B}$ of $n_{d,B} \geq 1.43$ at 25°C as recited in amended claim 1.

Because the features of amended independent claim 1 are not taught or suggested by Everaerts and Husemann, taken singly or in combination, these references would not have rendered claim 1 obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art.

For at least these reasons, claims 1-9 and 11 are patentable over the applied references. Thus, withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102 and §103 is respectfully requested.

II. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-9 and 11 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Early and favorable action is earnestly solicited.

CONDITIONAL PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

If entry and consideration of the amendments above requires an extension of time, Applicants respectfully request that this be considered a petition therefor. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee(s) due in this connection to Deposit Account No. 14-1263.

ADDITIONAL FEE

Please charge any insufficiency of fees, or credit any excess, to Deposit Account No. 14-1263.

Respectfully submitted,
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